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May 28, 2004 Immediate Release Contact: Jon Goldstein, NMED Communications Dir.

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Environment Department Announces National Bulk Food Distributors, Inc. Recall of Raw Almonds

(Santa Fe, NM) — National Bulk Food Distributors, Inc. (NBFD) is alerting consumers and retail stores that it is conducting a voluntary recall of raw whole almonds and trail mixes due to the possibility of contamination with *Salmonella enteritidis*. The recalled almonds were both sold in bulk as received from the supplier and used to make the following bulk trail mixes: Swiss Trail Mix 20# lot 1621, California Mix 10# lots 1241, 1542, 1605, 1606 and 1607, California Mix 30# lots 1646 and 1611, High Energy Mix 10# lot 1463, Amish Trail Mix 20# lot 1445, Energy Plus Trail Mix 20# lots 1251, 1453 and 1612. The items were sold from December 16, 2003 through May 25, 2004. The whole almonds were sold as received from Paramount Foods in the original 50 lbs boxes between December 16, 2003 and April 1, 2004 with lot numbers of 1143, 1275 and 1473.

Salmonella is an organism that can cause serious and sometimes fatal infections in young children, frail or elderly people, and others with weakened immune systems. Healthy persons infected with Salmonella often experience fever, diarrhea (which may be bloody), nausea, vomiting and abdominal pain. In rare circumstances, infection with Salmonella can result in the organism getting into the bloodstream and producing more severe illnesses such as arterial infections (i.e., infected aneurysms), endocarditis and arthritis.

The recalled products have been distributed across the U.S.

Wholesale customers have been requested to recall from retail outlets. Retailers who have the recalled products on hand are requested to remove them from sale and post a placard to alert consumers. Consumers should not consume raw almonds/mixes involved in the recall. Customers may contact NBFD's Recall Coordinator at 313-292-1550 ext. 215, between the hours of 7 a.m. and 4 p.m. EST.

Paramount Farms of California has announced a voluntary recall of Whole Natural Raw Almonds. The firm initiated the recall after learning from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration of numerous cases of Salmonella Enteriditis based on over 20 cases of illness in Alaska, Arizona, Oregon, Washington and Utah, as well as one case in Michigan.

For further information contact Jon Goldstein, Communications Director, NMED at (505) 827-0314.